

HOUSE RESOLUTION 66
By Bone

A RESOLUTION to recognize Master Sergeant John William Taylor on the occasion of his retirement from the Tennessee Air National Guard.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of public service have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, John William Taylor is one such estimable person who served with distinction for many years with the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard; upon his discharge on February 17, 2003, he had served this great State for 37 years, 5 months and 7 days; and

WHEREAS, born in Dyer, Tennessee, to Betty and William Taylor, John attended Dyer High School, where he played basketball, and graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a degree in education; and

WHEREAS, on September 11, 1965, John began his remarkable career as a reservist, enlisting in the Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, John Taylor transferred into the Tennessee Air National Guard, in which noble organization he served for many years with his fellow reservist Stratton Bone, who bestowed upon him the nickname "Lightning"; and

WHEREAS, as his extraordinary ability and dedication were noted by his superiors, John Taylor was promoted to the rank of Master Sergeant E-7 on January 1, 1986; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure in the National Guard, Master Sergeant Taylor's valiant service was often recognized and rewarded, as he was honored with the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Training Ribbon, the Southwest Asia Service Medal (with one device), the Air Force Legacy Service Award (with six devices), the Small Arms Expert Ribbon (with one device), the National Defense Service Medal (with one device), the Air Defense Force Reserve Medal (with two devices), the Air Reserves Forces Meritorious Service Medal (with six devices) and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (with one device); and

WHEREAS, in addition to his illustrious career in the Tennessee Army National Guard and the Tennessee Air National Guard, John Taylor established a remarkable civilian career with the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, upon his graduation from the University of Tennessee at Martin, John commenced employment with the State; for thirty years, he served the State of Tennessee as an exemplary employee of the Department of Employment Security, serving as Assistant Commissioner of Employment Security from 1991 until his retirement from state government in 1998; and

WHEREAS, John Taylor's most recent work experience has drawn upon his study of education, as he has acted as a substitute teacher for the public schools of Simpson County, Kentucky, since 2002; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the White House community, Mr. Taylor participates in numerous civic organizations, including the Masons, serving as the Worshipful Master of Masonic Lodge #642; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, John Taylor is most fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Pam Taylor, his children, Scott Taylor and his wife, Julie; Kim Szarek and her husband, Jay; Greg Taylor; and Leigh Beth Taylor; his granddaughters, Jordan Taylor and Kaylie Szarek; and his siblings, James B. Taylor and Sherry Monsue, both of Dyer, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, John Taylor has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues in the military and state government; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we thank Master Sergeant John William Taylor for his laudable service to the State of Tennessee and the Tennessee National Guard and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.